

CONFIDENTIAL

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149-012

September 26, 1950

Lt. Gen. Walter B. Smith
Director-Designate of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Smith:

As you know, in enacting the Internal Security Act of 1950, the Congress has in Section 20 amended the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 so as to create a new class of persons falling within the definition of the term "agent of a foreign principal" who are presumptively required to register with this Department under the terms of that Act. This class consists of persons who have knowledge of or have received instruction or assignment in the espionage, counter-espionage or sabotage service or tactics of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

This same section, however, excludes from this category of agents persons who have acquired the specified knowledge, training or assignment by reason of employment by an agency of the United States having responsibilities in the field of intelligence and have made full written disclosure of such knowledge or instructions to officials within such agency where such disclosure is a matter of record and a written determination has been made by the Attorney General or the Director of Central Intelligence that registration would not be in the interest of national security.

Since the foregoing has now become law, the Department is desirous of effecting its immediate operation. The responsibility for administering the Foreign Agents Registration Act is lodged in the Foreign Agents Registration Section of the Criminal Division and I would suggest, therefore, that you name a representative of your agency to confer with William E. Foley, Chief of the Foreign Agents Registration Section, at your earliest convenience so that appropriate liaison may be established for the administration of Section 20.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

DOJ REVIEW COMPLETED

OGC Has Reviewed

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Assistant Attorney General